

Burning Issues



The NIFC Newsletter

March 2000

Monument Dedication Set for May!

The formal dedication of NIFC's Wildland Firefighters Monument will be May 25, 2000. A dedication is planned from noon to 4:00 p.m. and all NIFC employees are invited.

"The planning process has begun," said Mike Apicello, Incident Commander for the dedication task group. "We are working to make this a special day for firefighters, supporters, employees, the community, and NIFC."

The dedication ceremony will include speakers from the U. S. Department of Agriculture and U. S. Department of the Interior, and local elected officials. Members of the wildland fire support community and especially wildland firefighters will attend the event.

Two clean up days have been scheduled for the monument, April 18 and May 4. You'll be hearing about the details through posters and e-mail. As spring arrives you'll be seeing many changes at the monument site as we get closer to the dedication: landscaping, interpretive signs, and finally, the placement of the statues. You'll be hearing more about the dedication as we plan for the ceremony, so stay tuned for monumental news.🔥



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New Faces from New Places in the National Park Service

In recent months the National Park Service has added some new faces from a variety of places. Stop by the NPS office to meet the new or visit with the staff you already know.



Carolyn Rogers'

Federal career has allowed her to travel the globe, but she's been, perhaps, nowhere so exotic as her most recent assignment at Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, located about 1,500 miles from Honolulu, Hawaii. Carolyn was the Administrative Assistant for the refuge, a haven for a variety of bird life and the 150 people who lived there. Access to the island was limited until 1999, when Aloha Airlines started to provide 737 jet service a minimum of every two weeks.

Carolyn started her Federal career with the Farmers Home Administration in St. Louis, Illinois, as an Accounting Technician. She then traveled to New Mexico, where she was a Lead Accounting Technician at White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. Crossing the Pacific, she headed to Okinawa, Japan, as a Budget Analyst at Kadina Air Force Base. From Japan, she went to Vicenza, Italy, where she worked for the U.S. Army as a Dispersing Officer at Camp Ederle. Prior to her career with the government, Carolyn worked at various jobs and took 10 years off to be a homemaker, and raise three daughters.

Arriving in November 1999, as an Administrative Assistant for the NPS Fire Management Program Center, her duties include budget, procurement,

property management, and a little bit of everything and anything. And once in a while, she'll tell stories about her adventures on the island.

Bill Oswald, who arrived in October 1999, spent 25 years this side of the Pacific at Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), headquartered in San Francisco, California. GGNRA is the largest urban park in the world, and is incredibly diverse, both naturally and culturally. It includes 28 miles of coastline and coastal habitats, the redwood forest at Muir Woods National Monument, Fort Point National Historic Site, Alcatraz Island and the Presidio of San Francisco. With over 62 miles of urban interface, the park has more than 2,000 buildings, 900 of which are historic structures, including the oldest building in San Francisco, the Officer's Club at the Presidio.

During Bill's tenure at Golden Gate, he served in a variety of positions, from interpreter, to law enforcement officer, to resource manager, to fire management officer, with his most recent position being the Fire Chief of the Presidio Fire Department. His background made him the perfect fit for the job that he now holds, the National Park Service's Structural Fire Program Manager. Bill will now manage the overall development and implementation of the servicewide structural fire program. A multi-disciplined NPS steering committee has been developed to assist in providing a comprehensive perspective for the program.

Arriving from the sub-tropics, **Roberta D'Amico** hails from Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks located south of Miami, Florida. She started there as a District Interpreter and left as the Chief of Interpretation, Education

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Les Rosenkrance to Leave Bureau of Land Management

Les Rosenkrance, BLM's national director of Fire and Aviation since 1995, will retire from the agency in April, after 34 years of service.

Rosenkrance began his federal service in 1959 as a firefighter in Challis, Idaho, then became a smokejumper in McCall, Idaho, where he worked for eight seasons. He served as a state director in Arizona, associate state director in Alaska, district manager, area manager, rangeland conservationist, and a variety of other positions within the agency.

During his tenure as the director of Fire and Aviation, Rosenkrance established consistent, agency-wide standards for firefighting. He instituted a "readiness review" program that helps BLM offices to prepare for the upcoming fire season and established a true career path for firefighting professionals.

Rosenkrance also helped redefine how fire should be considered an integral part of natural resource management, in much the same way as other basic elements such as water, soil, and climate.

In 1994, Rosenkrance led the team that investigated the South Canyon Fire, in which 14 firefighters perished. The recommendations and conclusions from that report have led to sweeping changes in the federal wildland firefighting community.

Twenty-five years ago, he organized the first environmental awareness day for Alaskan school children, an event that now annually involves thousands of students.

"Les' accomplishments are almost too many to list," said Tom Fry, BLM's acting national director. "He is a man of great vision and determination. He has taken on some of the very most sensitive and difficult assignments. He left his mark in every place that he has served. Les' contributions have made BLM a better and safer agency."

Larry Hamilton, BLM's state director in Montana since 1993, will replace Rosenkrance. Hamilton will assume his new duties in April. 🌿

Shepard Bids NIFC a Fond Farewell

by Ed Shepard

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the folks at NIFC from all of the agencies for the chance to work with you for the past three years. My time in Boise passed very quickly and I enjoyed my association with all of you. Fire management has made great strides in the past few years. We can all take pride in the part we played in moving the program forward. I believe the vision used to develop the fire management policy has been largely accepted and internalized by the agencies.

It was not an easy decision to leave NIFC. I enjoyed my job and the people I worked with, but there is a time for change and the time was right for me.

Terry, my wife, and I are excited about moving to Portland, but will miss all of you. Please stop by and see me if you get to Oregon. We left a daughter in Boise, so we'll be back from time to time. 🌿



Forest Service Welcomes a New Webmaster

I've been given the opportunity to introduce myself to the NIFC community, so here goes... My name is Jane Rohling and I'm the new Forest Service NIFC Webmaster. I came to Boise from the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, where I planned interpretive sites, designed interpretive exhibits and signs, and occasionally worked on publications and video projects. For the past four years, I was director of the Wallowa Mountains Visitor Center and the Interpretive Specialist for the three districts based in Enterprise, OR (Hells Canyon NRA, and the Eagle Cap and Wallowa Valley districts). Prior to that, I spent almost four years in the HCNRA office in Clarkston, WA, working on Capital Investment Projects.

I came to the Forest Service from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. I was the Regional Interpretive Specialist for two-and-one-half years in the Southeast Regional Office in Atlanta, GA. During this time, I had the opportunity to see many of the refuges and fish hatcheries in the 10-state region while assisting field staff with interpretive site, facility and exhibit planning and coordinating publication design/production for over 100 refuges and more than 40 fish hatcheries.

I lived in Raleigh and Chapel Hill, NC from 1980-1989. In 1981, I had barely started graduate school at NC State University when I was offered a full-time job as an assistant photographer with the Conservation Education Division of the NC Wildlife Resources Commission. Thinking a job in the hand was worth two degrees in the bush, I took it, and a year later was promoted to a position as the Conservation Education Field Representative for 22 counties in the north central portion of the state. I really enjoyed the diversity in this position, which combined



environmental education, interpretation, and public affairs.

My first job after college was as a naturalist with the Tennessee Valley Authority at Land Between The Lakes, a large recreation area in western Kentucky and Tennessee. Ironically, the management of this area was transferred from TVA to the Forest Service last fall.

Lest you start thinking I'm a Southerner (if I were actually speaking to you, you'd immediately know I'm not), I was born in Ames, IA but raised in Mundelein, IL (35 miles NW of Chicago). I graduated from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale with a BS in Environmental Interpretation, earned through a special major program in which I combined art and photography with a wide range of natural sciences. During my high school and college years I spent a lot of time canoeing in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area of Minnesota and Quetico Provincial Park in Ontario. It was these North Woods experiences that I credit for my choice of career and the path my life has taken in the years since.

I'm excited about being part of the NIFC crew, but have a lot to learn about fire and aviation. It's good to know there are lots of people here to help me get oriented! I look forward to working with you. 🌲

MURALS INSTALLED IN TRAINING BUILDING

The Great Basin Training Center serves more than 1,000 agency personnel annually in an average of 30 courses. It is part of the National Fire and Aviation Training Support Group on base. In an effort to maintain a professional aesthetic to this public building, Antonia Hedrick, BIA, painted three murals in 1998.

Wildland fire, operations, and air operations are the themes. The first painting depicts two sawyers watching as an inferno explodes in Yellowstone National Park in 1988. The second painting depicts a crew "with one foot in the black" building line. In the future, look for a fourth mural in the lobby of Great Basin Training depicting the Snake River.

The three murals are a beginning of a wall-size story mural. In addition, there will be associated theme photos mounted and attached to each painting. The three themes represented are air operations, the people who work in the field, and the intensity and awesomeness of fire itself. A fourth mural will be added and will reside upstairs by the elevator. It will be a serene mountain scene, surrounded by photos representing all entities involved in wildland firefighting. 🔥



Yellowstone, 1988 3.5'x6' oil on canvas 1998



One Foot in the Black 3.5'x6' oil on canvas 1998



Skycrane 3.5'x6' oil on canvas 1998

Buzzwords Become Reality

They came from the south. They came from the north, from near and far, east and west. Some were field office or district managers; many were fire managers and fire specialists. In all, about 180 of BLM's top line and fire managers met in Boise, Idaho, February 28 to March 2, 2000, to talk about fire management and the part they play. Roles, responsibilities and accountability: these have become much more than buzzwords for many managers in the BLM the past year.

Converging at the Boise Centre on the Grove, the group was welcomed by Idaho's Associate

State Director, Elena Daly. Then Al Wright, California's State Director, set the stage with a candid discussion of the past summer's Lowden Ranch fire, a prescribed burn in northern California that jumped control lines and eventually destroyed 23 homes and burned 2,000

acres. Wright said the BLM immediately accepted responsibility for the tragedy.

"When it comes to fire, make sure there's nothing routine about it," Wright cautioned the audience. His advice included: know your job and the job of others; question everything; know the land and understand both the issues and the public in the area; and recognize that it's okay to wait if something doesn't seem quite right.

Les Rosenkrance, director of BLM's Office of Fire and Aviation, took Wright's theme a step further. "The problem with holding someone accountable is that it's hard, it's gut-wrenching. But for the safety of our firefighters, we've got to hold people accountable. Every person in this room is accountable."

Rosenkrance said managers can make a difference by hiring good fire management officers (FMOs) and making sure employees meet the minimum qualifications for the work they're assigned. "Make sure your public outreach is done, and your burn plans and environmental assessments are accurate. Be involved in the prescribed fire program; otherwise, stop it!"

After lunch, a research consultant and motivational speaker took the stage. Gordon Graham, attorney and former California police officer, weaved humor into his lecture on risk management.

"When it comes to fire,
make sure there's nothing
routine about it."

- Al Wright, California
BLM State Director

"You are the best risk manager your organization has," he informed the assembly. Graham emphasized prevention, which he said is "true risk management." He said things that go wrong in life are predictable. "If it's

predictable, it's preventable." Graham also said high risk/low frequency events are those which most often get people in trouble. Rather than making hasty choices or decisions, Graham urged the group to use "discretionary time," or the period of time before action is taken, to think through the consequences of the decision or action. "Slow down and ask someone who does it at a higher frequency than you do," he said.

Bringing the first day to a close was a panel of specialists from the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and BLM personnel and human relations departments who discussed safety, legalities and personnel issues related to manager roles, responsibilities and accountability.

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Christmas Spirit at NIFC

NIFC employees showed their generosity in many ways by sponsoring two families for Christmas 1999. Through bake sale donations, employee association donations and individual purchases, each family received clothing, toys, bedding, shampoo, toothbrushes, laundry soap, firewood, food, books, videos and gift certificates to Albertsons and Payless Shoes.

Deanne Huff from the Business Practices Group headed up this effort and said "We have some wonderful, giving people here at NIFC and my thanks go out to all of them. We definitely gave these families a Christmas to remember."

Along with the Christmas families, NIFC employees contributed to the Whitney Elementary School's food drive. Donation boxes yielded cases of tuna, salmon, soups,



juices, chili, dessert mixes, canned vegetables, etc. Whitney's own food drive effort over the holidays didn't turn out as well as expected, so NIFC's donations were greatly appreciated. All food was distributed to Whitney School families in need.🔥

A Trip into America's History

On February 10, nine employees from the National Interagency Fire Center participated in a field trip to the Idaho Black History Museum to recognize National Black History month. The museum, located in Julia Davis Park, is St. Paul Baptist Church, constructed in 1921 by African Americans in the state of Idaho. The church was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1981, and moved to Julia Davis Park in 1998, from its previous location on Broadway. It held its grand opening as Idaho's Black History Museum in March of 1999. Much of the original building was saved during its move, including the stained glass windows and interior wainscoting.

Currently the museum is featuring a pictorial display of the civil rights movement, and significant events in Idaho that occurred during that time. The display, titled "The

Struggle for Civil Rights At Home and Beyond," helps us remember those early years in the 1960s that changed our laws and culture forever. The group also watched a documentary video recounting the early struggle of the civil rights movement, told through news footage, including those milestone events that are now part of our history. "This was such an important time in our history, we should never forget it," said Lorraine Buck. "I really appreciate the Special Emphasis Committee's effort in sponsoring different field trips each year, usually we get special treatment, more than the general public, so it's well worthwhile to learn something new about our community."

The museum is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.🔥

New Faces...

Continued from page 2

and Visitor Services. Roberta's career includes stints as a dispatcher, a frontline interpreter, educational program coordinator, maintenance/supply clerk, a public affairs officer at the park and regional level, and as a management assistant at a newly established unit of the NPS (Niobrara-Missouri National Scenic Riverways in Nebraska).

After finishing basic firefighter training in the mid-80s, she went out on a few fires, but eventually found her niche as an Information Officer. When she was in the Mid-Atlantic region, she was on the first regional NPS All Risk Management Team (ARMT), while at the Everglades she was on the park's ARMT team, and is currently on the NPS Type 1 ARMT as the Information Officer. As the NPS' Fire Information/Education program lead, Roberta will provide guidance, direction, and coordination for the NPS fire information, education, and interpretation function.

Although his office is based at the National Advanced Resource Technology Center (NARTC) in Marana, Arizona, **Rich Wands**, the new Lessons Learned Program Manager for the NPS, can often be seen here at NIFC.

The Lessons Learned program is being modeled after the Center for Army Lessons Learned program in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. The purpose of the program is to support the fire community by collecting and analyzing information on tactics, techniques and procedures that can be used to support field operations, training curriculums and safety programs. Lessons Learned will provide a Knowledge Management System for NARTC and will also establish an Evaluation and Assessment Program for all National Level Fire

Management Courses. The Lessons Learned program is targeted to be on line in April.

Rich began his career in Fire Management in 1969 with the Forest Service in California on the Cleveland National Forest. In the midst of working his way up through the fire ranks in California, he completed a tour of duty with the U.S. Navy. Rich continued on in fire, becoming the Assistant Fire Management Officer at Mt. Hood National Forest in Oregon, and the Fire Management Officer on the Santa Fe National Forest in New Mexico. Additionally, in 1992, Rich became an Incident Commander on one of the Pacific Northwest's National Incident Management Teams. Rich started in his new position this past fall.

One face, which isn't new to the NPS, but is usually seen more often in Alaska, than Idaho, is **Brad Cella**. Brad is currently the Regional Fire Management Officer for the NPS Alaska Region, and is periodically on detail to the NPS office in Boise. In October 1999, the Federal Fire and Aviation Leadership Council approved the concept of developing a new program analysis and budget formulation system that can be used by all the Department of the Interior Bureaus and the USDA Forest Service. Brad is heading up this interagency task group to research the feasibility of this program. Members on the team include: John Barborinas and Steve Larrabee, Bureau of Indian Affairs; Mike Aoi, Barry Mathias, and Bill Mitchell, Bureau of Land Management; Roger Spaulding, Fish and Wildlife Service; Enoch Bell and Howard Roose, Forest Service; and Sarah Robertson, National Park Service/Forest Service. 🌲

Rosenkrance Honored by Public Lands Foundation

Les Rosenkrance, director of the Office of Fire and Aviation for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), has been named the "Outstanding Public Land Professional" for 1999 by the Public Lands Foundation (PLF).

The award was presented to Rosenkrance on February 10, 2000, in a ceremony in the BLM director's office in Washington, D.C.

"Les has made a difference, not only in his long career of natural resources management, but in the welfare of employees throughout BLM, particularly people who have been affected by wildfire," said George Lea, PLF president, who announced the selection.

Lea noted Rosenkrance's leadership during two major wildland fires in recent years. Rosenkrance led the team that investigated the South Canyon Fire in 1994, in which 14 firefighters perished. He was also instrumental in setting the tone and direction for the investigation of the Lowden Ranch Fire in northern California, which burned 23 residences last July.

"Les has taken on some of the very toughest of assignments and dealt with them in an equitable, professional and innovative way. He has set the standard in BLM and other agencies in terms of investigations and assigning accountability.

"Les' entire career has been marked by a willingness to take a



tough stand and charting new directions to protect and enhance natural resources," Lea said. "Too often, the public has little appreciation for the contributions made by thousands of hard-working federal employees who protect public land.

"We hope this recognition of Les' work will help the real owners of these lands to better understand the high ideals and integrity that BLM employees bring to this difficult task each day. We want the public to know how fortunate they are to have employees like Les," added Lea.

Lea described the national award, now in its eleventh year, as a "Hall of Fame" type of recognition for special professional achievement, courage, as well as outstanding job performance.

"Les Rosenkrance helped the fire management program to come of age. He will be remembered as a pioneer who had a vision and the determination to make his vision a reality," Lea said. 🌿

WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Three BLM employees earned top honors at completion of the advanced course at the Wildland Firefighter Academy. Lindsey Niewert, a BLM firefighter from the Shoshone Field Office, was this year's recipient of the "Highest Academic Achievement Award" given at the Wildland Firefighter Academy. Jill Ivie, a firefighter based in Richfield, Utah, was the recipient of the "Jon Kelso Memorial Award" as the most outstanding firefighter in the class. Ryan Whiteaker, from Las Cruces, New Mexico, earned the "Birch Memorial Award" for outstanding leadership abilities.

The Bureau began its participation in the firefighter apprenticeship program in 1990. The objectives are to provide the firefighter with education, training and work experience that allows them to reach journey level (career appointment) status upon successful completion of the program. Going through this program is a way temporary employees can achieve permanent status and begin a career in the fire organization.

The four components of the Program include the basic academy; advanced academy; work process hours (on-the-job); and, related and supplemental training hours.

The Apprenticeship Program consists of 4,000 hours of specific work experience, with up to 2,000 hours given for previous fire experience. The program takes three to five years to complete. Apprentices should have at least two seasons of wildland firefighting experience to apply for the program. At the completion of the program, an apprentice will have achieved a senior firefighter level of expertise with minimum qualifications as a crew boss trainee.

For more information regarding this program, you can contact Lois Cunha at the BLM California State Office (916) 978-4432. 🌿



Front row, left to right: Terry Swinscoe-AZ, Julie Early-CA, Jill Ivie-UT, and Jason Class-NV. Second row, left to right: Michael Minton-CA, Moke Sasaoka-NV, Ryan Whiteaker-NM, Lindsey Niewert-ID, Angie Adams-CA, Matt Pacheco-NM, and Andy Garrell-NV.

Educating Youth and Adults on the Role of Wildland Fire

Over the past few years DOI agencies have expanded the traditional wildland fire prevention message by developing new educational materials for children and adults on the topics of wildland fire ecology, fire behavior, fire suppression, recreational and home fire safety, wildland/urban fire protection and more. These items include educational tools for children and educators and the "Fire's Role in Nature" poster series which has won a national award.

You can check some of these materials out at:

http://wahoo.dnr.state.mn.us/catalog/products/fire_welcome.html

Pat Durland, prevention and education specialist, is also looking for employees at NIFC or volunteers who are interested in learning how to use these materials and be available, as needed, to fill requests for school presentations, special interest groups, and community events on the subject of wildland fire.

If you're interested in joining our outreach team, or know someone who would be interested in doing this in a volunteer role, please contact Pam Johansen at 387-5457. 🌿

Base Maintenance Happenings

The base maintenance staff continues to work on major improvements at NIFC. This winter an additional 1,000 square feet was added to the infrared aircraft hangar to make room for a new flight simulator and training area. The radio cache now has 2,400 square feet more at the west end of the building. This two-story, wheelchair accessible addition will provide office space, a lab, and more room for the co-op training program.

The staff is also working on the OAS accessibility project. A wheelchair ramp was added, a storage room was converted to a handicap accessible restroom and two offices in A Barracks were remodeled to better accommodate wheelchairs. Three automatic door openers were installed and major light fixtures were changed.

Are you wondering why the orange cones have been placed along the parking area at the west end of the base? Is this an obstacle course for the NIFC employees who ride their bikes to work? No, there is a logical

explanation. When the soil in this area is totally dry, it will be treated with a sterilizing agent to prevent weeds from growing. This has been a frustrating project for base maintenance personnel, as every time the soil is **almost** dry enough, it rains. They ask that you please be patient until the soil can be treated. Until then, employees are asked to park elsewhere.



NIFC would like to welcome three new employees to base maintenance. John Fitchner will help direct ground maintenance, Dennis Kendricks is the new carpenter, and Clyde Adams is the daytime security guard. 🔥

Buzzwords...

Continued from page 6

The second and third day of the conference focused on fire management roles and responsibilities. Attendees divided into workgroups in which they addressed four topics: Roles and Responsibilities of Fire Managers (Director, Office of Fire and Aviation, State and Field Office Fire Management Officers); Roles and Responsibilities of Line Managers (BLM Director, State Directors, and Field Office/District Managers); Expectations and Communications (among fire and line managers); and Minimum Qualification Standards.

The workgroups presented findings on the third day of the conference and several overriding themes surfaced: fire management must be weaved into resource management, from planning to

implementation; a strategy must be developed to address recruitment, retention, diversity, and training to meet minimum qualification standards, and workforce planning; delegations of authority must be clearly defined to eliminate confusion in an organization with varying structure from state to state; and the Bureau must develop a risk management strategy in the fire management program, including identification and mitigation of high risk activities and situations.

"If not me, then who?"

- Roy Johnson

Roy Johnson, BLM's Deputy Fire Program Manager, summed up the conference and issued a challenge to managers. "We can talk about the past, but today's the day we have to live with it. Look in the mirror tomorrow and ask yourself, 'If not now, then when? If not me, then who?'" 🔥

BLM Employee Awards

Les Rosenkrance presented non-monetary awards to the following employees at the December 15th BLM All-Employee Meeting.



- ★ **Jimmy Long**, electronic technician for RAWS, was recognized for his leadership role in establishing the BLM tower climbing training and certification program.
- ★ **Mike Utecht**, equipment specialist for the Transportation Team, received an award for providing excellent customer service while providing new fire engine equipment to the field.
- ★ **Gary Diede**, aircraft attendant supervisor for the Ramp Unit, was acknowledged for the continued high quality of services provided by the NIFC ramp since he took over the duties in 1998.
- ★ **Al Olson**, fire management specialist, got an award for his work as a key member of the BLM Training Development Unit. Al was instrumental in the development of the single engine air tanker and the BLM engine training courses.
- ★ **Martin Adell**, smokejumper squad leader, was rewarded for his involvement with the BLM smokejumper rookie training program conducted in Alaska.
- ★ **John Kawczynski**, smokejumper squad leader, received an award for his positive, professional attitude and outstanding work ethic in his involvement in smokejumper support to the fuels management program. 🔥

From the Frying Pan Into the Fire

The early start to the southern fire season prompted extraordinary efforts to keep pace with the workload. Activity picked up significantly the week of March 6, a week where three geographic areas were having dispatch workshops and others were conducting dispatcher training. Finding people to support the fires was difficult.

However in each challenge, one can find opportunity! The Great Basin training center was presenting D-310 Support Dispatcher training in the multipurpose room of the Jack Wilson Building. Many of the NICC staff were involved as students or instructors for the course. Three other members were visiting dispatcher workshops. Keeping the orders flowing and the phones answered was a challenge. Rick Squires, the duty coordinator decided to recruit some trainee

support dispatchers from the class to help out after the daily sessions. "It seemed like a great opportunity to provide some timely experience and reinforce the lessons being learned in the training." Hillary Price, Becky Jensen, Greg Burch and David Hollins took the plunge and put in extra hours working at NICC after their training class.

"I thought it was a good time to jump in and get my feet wet, at a time when it wasn't super busy," said Price, who is a contracting specialist on her home district in Vernal, Utah. "I have a better understanding of what goes on at the national center, and that's helpful to me in my job."

The added help made the difference and kept NICC functioning to the high standard it is known for. 🔥

Interagency Aviation Training 2000 Program

The new millennium is bringing major changes to the DOI/USFS Aviation Training Program. In an effort to curb redundancy of training material, the Interagency Aviation Training and Qualifications Working Team was formed in 1996 and charged with reviewing all aviation training courses. This team reports to the Aviation Management Counsel. The Interagency Aviation Training 2000 Program is the product of their efforts.

To develop this program, the working team looked at existing training courses and available subject matter. With this information, 16 aviation positions were identified and 36 training modules were developed that would adequately train people for those positions. All required training can be accomplished by using



various combinations of these modules. The team is planning to have most of the modules available via the Internet by 2002, thereby reducing training travel costs significantly.

For more information about this training, you can contact Kris Damsgaard, OAS aviation management training officer, at 387-5812 or Dennis Hulbert, chairman, interagency aviation training and qualifications working team, at 916-364-2833.🔥

Hello, Good-bye

Coming ...

- Roberta D'Amico - NPS Fire Information/Education
- Rich Wands - NPS Lessons Learned Program Manager
- Carolyn Rogers - NPS Administrative Asst.
- Bill Oswald - NPS Structural Fire Program
- Jane Rohling - USFS Webmaster/Writer
- Larry Hamilton - BLM Director, Office of Fire and Aviation

Transitioning ...

- Ed Shepard - BLM - Deputy State Director, Resource Planning, Use and Protection

Going ...

- Les Rosenkrance - BLM - Retiring
- Steve Haglund - BIA - Retiring